Morning Oregonian.

VOL. XIII.—NO. 277. PORTLAND, OREGON: WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1873. PRICE—TEN CENTS

EASTERN NEWS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE OREGONIAN.]

Ohio and Chesapeake R R Consolidation

NEW YORK Dec 30—A dispatch from Cleveland says a large representative meeting of prominent business men was held last night to consider the proposition to complete the consolidation of the Ohio and Chesapeake railroads.

Trial of an Alleged Bank Thief

The trial of Senator William M Stewart for the theft of the Wells, Fargo & Co bank will be resumed at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The district attorney will occupy about two hours in closing the case for the prosecution.

Where is our Trophy the Virginius

The Herald's Key West special says the U S steamer Wyoming left Havana on the 27th for Cienfuegos. The Key West correspondent of the Herald says the Virginius is still there, and that the Spanish authorities are making every effort to get her off. The Spanish steamer Isabel Segunda, which left Havana on the 26th, has not been heard from. Nothing definite can be learned however, at the hour of going to press.

The Sunken Virginius.

WASHINGTON Dec 30—Dr Williams of the steamer Tonawanda will arrive here on Sunday from Philadelphia and report passing a sunken vessel some miles south of Main Bar with only her top masts or top gallant masts out of water. The steamer Brandywine visited the spot three days ago and reported nothing. Private dispatches will be received to-morrow, at the hour of going to press.

The Sunken Virginius.

WASHINGTON Dec 30—Dr Williams of the steamer Tonawanda will arrive here on Sunday from Philadelphia and report passing a sunken vessel some miles south of Main Bar with only her top masts or top gallant masts out of water. The steamer Brandywine visited the spot three days ago and reported nothing. Private dispatches will be received to-morrow, at the hour of going to press.

Trial of an Alleged Bank Thief

The trial of Senator William M Stewart for the theft of the Wells, Fargo & Co bank will be resumed at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The district attorney will occupy about two hours in closing the case for the prosecution.

Where is our Trophy the Virginius

The Herald's Key West special says the U S steamer Wyoming left Havana on the 27th for Cienfuegos. The Key West correspondent of the Herald says the Virginius is still there, and that the Spanish authorities are making every effort to get her off. The Spanish steamer Isabel Segunda, which left Havana on the 26th, has not been heard from. Nothing definite can be learned however

The Daily Oregonian.

WEDNESDAY MORNING DEC 31 1873

WHAT IS THE MATTER

It is apparent from evidence outside the columns that the Democratic party will go into the campaign of the coming fall and election of the next five months will elapse before the day of that exciting event shall arrive the politicians are beginning to whisper their plans to their most intimate friends We are informed that an active and influential member of the party intends to move at the coming session of the Legislature for the appointment of a committee of five citizens to investigate and report upon the causes which have led to the present depressed condition of the party and to suggest such measures as may seem necessary to restore it to its former power and influence between now and the time of the meeting of the Legislature this committee will have ample time to make the investigation and report its conclusions but may not be in time to suggest a remedy for the present evil Perhaps the committee will not be appointed at all but if appointed it will be composed of men who will not be willing to cast off their party associates in the hour of their adversity and will not be willing to desert the party in the hour of its misfortune

Whether the committee is appointed or not the investigation will be made by the people and the result will be known at the election in June next

The causes which have led to the present depressed condition of the party are numerous and complex Some of them are local and some are general Some of them are permanent and some are temporary Some of them are open and some are secret Some of them are political and some are moral Some of them are social and some are financial Some of them are economical and some are industrial Some of them are natural and some are artificial Some of them are visible and some are invisible Some of them are tangible and some are intangible Some of them are real and some are imaginary Some of them are rational and some are irrational Some of them are sensible and some are nonsensical Some of them are reasonable and some are unreasonable Some of them are logical and some are illogical Some of them are consistent and some are inconsistent Some of them are honest and some are dishonest Some of them are true and some are false Some of them are right and some are wrong Some of them are good and some are bad Some of them are virtuous and some are vicious Some of them are moral and some are immoral Some of them are pure and some are impure Some of them are holy and some are unholy Some of them are divine and some are diabolical Some of them are heavenly and some are hellish

But that time has past and no such inducement to maintain the party for the party's sake exists Democrats and Republicans are agreed upon all the general features of administrative policy In the last campaigns in the several States one could not tell a Democratic from a Republican platform except by referring to its heading, or to the party clap-trap about the immaculate purity of the party—which always had to be called by its name Democratic or Republican, in order that the reader might perceive what party it was that had such a superabundance of virtue And these two great parties, having at last come upon common ground in theory, both professing the utmost devotion to the welfare of the people, and both repudiating that profession to a greater or less extent when in power, the question will naturally be asked by thinking persons, which of these parties conforms its practices most nearly to its precepts? Does either of them in fact, endeavor to carry out its principles? The country is poor just now—people are hard up—and there is a peculiar demand for economy in the public service, so that the burdens of taxation may be as light as possible which of these parties will go seriously about the work of reforming the abuses that have crept into both organizations into every department of the public service? Will either of them address itself in good earnest to this reform? And as this is a vital question affecting the pocket and purse of every citizen, what is to be done if neither party will take hold of the matter? Has the time come in Oregon when the condition of affairs calls for the remedy which the people of California were compelled to adopt?

These are questions which are being asked by Democrats and Republicans and on their answer, more than upon party name will depend the success of the tickets, partisan and independent that may enter the field at the election this spring

LOOK AT THE RECORD

The old Indian, when asked by a white man why he wore no clothing, answered You pale faces only clothe the part of your bodies" His questioner said O we clothe all our bodies except our cheeks'

Yes,' replied the Indian but I am all cheek

It has generally been supposed that the noble red man overshot the mark a little, but that is a mistake That thoughtful Indian is now editing the *Bulletin* of this city, and every one who has watched his performances of late must admit that he is indeed all cheek Anything short of that amount would not suffice for the writing of his articles which have appeared in the brimborium organ during the progress of the investigation of the election cases since that investigation closed The boldest falsehood is told one day and contradicted the next This has been a common occurrence from the first but yesterday the *Bulletin* caps the climax in the way of downright impudence In the face of the fact and of the judicial record the *Bulletin* declares that these indictments by the Grand Jury of the United States District Court in all eleven indictments and that in each of the persons indicted was convicted

Now the truth is until the close of that court showed that the Grand Jury presented thirteen indictments and that two of them were disposed of as follows

Four of them being defective the United States Marshal was instructed not to execute them were referred by the Judge upon the evidence adduced in open court to the next Grand Jury, the defendants being held to bail in the sum of one thousand dollars each Any person who will take the pains to read the evidence in these cases—it has been published—will not hesitate a moment to pronounce the defendants guilty of bribery, and the jury would not have hesitated had it not been for the technical defect which required the court to take the cases out of the hands of the jury Why did the counsel of these defendants press that motion for the non suit so earnestly, when the granting of their motion would leave the indictments in full force and effect? Why did the counsel for the defendants object to the jury rendering a verdict of acquittal in the cases which they would have feared if the jury rendered a verdict of guilty? The reason is plain If the cases went to the jury a conviction was inevitable That evidence of four positive witnesses uncontradicted unimpeached and unassailable was sufficient to convict and left their case in the hands of the jury without a leg to stand upon Hence their counsel took all the technical advantage

COMMISSION.

HARDSON,

ONEER

AND OAK STS.

Sales

ERIES CNF U MER
ND HOI SES

day and Saturday.

ic Sale.

CERIES and LIQUORS,
e on Consignment
keeping Free of Charge
d Hand Furniture
HARDSON Auctioneer

remptory Sale

URNITURE, &c.

on salesroom on

DEC 31, 18 3,
A M

AN GOODS

Boxes
rick Boxes
Pans Ivory
love Boxes
atch Safe

O

NCY GOODS

O

NGROOM AND KITCH
ITURE

O

M SAUCERS

O

INGROOM and KITCH-
TURE

DSON, Auctioneer.

NCE.

E

NCE COMPANY
ANCISCO.
ne Insurance.

..$1,000,000.

.. President.
.Vice President.
Secretary.
Marine Secretary.
General Manager.

TORS:

[illegible]
Lewis, B Gold-
sley, Lloyd Brooke
L P Grayer.
J A Crawford.
D M French.
J Lowenberg.
ILTON BOYD,
t-Washington Territory

RICE!

S WEEK,

ICK'S.

GOODS!

ooks,
J K GILL & CO S

J K GILL & CO S

lbums,
J K GILL & CO S

J K GILL & CO S

ting Desks,
J K GILL & CO S

r Desks,
J K GILL & CO S

Pencils,
J K GILL & CO S

J K GILL & CO S

Ivory

J K GILL & CO S

J K GILL & CO S

d Low Prices,
L & CO.'S.
treet

LETING.

ES THAT THE AN
ckholders of the Wood
Portland will be held
Room No 9 Deamis
Washington street on
at 7½ o'clock tertiae
ctors, and such other
it
F BELL Secretary
d3dtd

The Daily Oregonian.

WEDNESDAY MORNING DEC 31 1873

CITY.

DEATH —On Sunday afternoon about 3 o'clock a man named Harry Gardner employed on the lock hand on the *Shoshone* was drowned by that boat was on the way to this city which had been up as far as Albany and was descending the river with a full load when the accident occurred. When about three miles below Wheatland the boat ran aground. A line was taken ashore and an effort made to draw her into the channel but without success. After running aground the steamer became along and attempted to pull the boat off but failed. In order to allow the boat to pass down it was necessary for the steamer to cast off her line. After the former had passed the Captain ordered the line run out again. It was in attempting to do this that young Gardner lost his life. He and the mate were in the small boat and were endeavoring to get from the shore to the *Shoshone* Gardner was standing in the middle of the small boat throwing out the rope over the stern of the boat. The current was running with great velocity and it was with much difficulty that men could make perceptible headway. While Gardner was giving out the line he missed the skiff to give a sudden jerk one of his legs became entangled in a coil of rope and before he could extricate himself from the rope tightened and capsized the skiff. He came clung to the gunwales of the skiff managed to keep his head above water until the boat floated down to a heap of driftwood. He then crawled out and was saved. The latter however, was drowned. His foot was badly wound up in the rope and he could not extricate himself with all his frantic struggles. One end of the rope is securely fastened on shore on the shore and when it became taut the force of the current, the poor fellow was carried under the water and held there until life was extinct. There was but one small boat and that had drifted away so that no one could go to the assistance of Gardner. Had the rope been cut he might have been saved but no one could raise a finger to rescue him although a dozen persons were within a few rods of the drowning man. It was a number of hours before the body was recovered. When found, the fatal rope was still fastened around his leg. Yesterday the body was brought down on the *Shoshone*, and will be buried to-day. Gardner was about 25 years old. He has no friends or relatives in the country so far as is known. He was a German by birth, and a steady, industrious young fellow.

ON A LIGHT —At the time the steamer *Shoshone* ran aground below Wheatland last Sunday a circumstance occurred, in addition to the drowning of Harry Gardner, which is worthy of mention. After the skiff upset and threw the mate and Gardner into the water it floated some distance down to where a quantity of driftwood had lodged. The mate had hung on to the skiff and also reached the driftwood. But the oars were gone, and if he could right the skiff he could not either reach the shore or boat in consequence of the swift current. There was no other small boat on the *Shoshone* to enable any person on board to reach the land. Capt Baughman at length determined to construct a temporary raft and float down to the drift, not only to relieve the mate, but to secure the skiff. Accordingly a frail raft was hastily improvised, and Capt Baughman getting on board, committed himself to the swift current. He managed to reach the drift in safety, and assisted by the mate succeeded in righting the capsized craft. But the current was too strong, and the skiff got away from them. Capt Baughman and the mate then got aboard the frail raft and here safely followed after the fugitive skiff. It drifted about two miles and was at length caught in another drift. However the raft ran into some driftwood and the Captain and mate succeeded after much difficulty and danger in reaching the shore. Night now set in, as it was late in the afternoon when the Captain left the *Shoshone* and it was too dark to make their way along the shore back to the steamer. There were no houses in the vicinity and the alternative of passing the night in the woods was of necessity adopted. Chilled to the very bone, and supperless the mate and Captain made up their minds to make the best of the situation. Fortunately Baughman had a few matches in his pocket which were still dry. With these the two men soon started a roaring fire before which they dried their clothes. A sleepless night was endured although they did not suffer with the cold. Early the next morning the capsized skiff was found further down the stream. It was drawn ashore and the water emptied. The two men then got on and made their way back to the *Shoshone* after having been absent from 9 o'clock P M to 10 A M. Those on the boat had experienced considerable anxiety about the prolonged absence of Baughman and the mate, who it was feared had shared a similar fate to that of Gardner. It is needless to add that the two men who had passed such a miserable night partook with sharpened appetites of a hearty breakfast.

"WHO STOLE MY UMBRELLA?" —Where is the thieving scoundrel who stole my umbrella, we heard a man exclaim yesterday afternoon in a towering rage as he was wading through the muddy streets and his plug hat and broadcloth coat fairly drinking in the pelting torrent. If I could only find the wretch, I would run the umbrella down his accursed throat he muttered as he turned to take shelter under the awning. The bitter experience of that gentleman will coincide with that of thousands for who has not had more than a dozen umbrellas stolen ere he has reached majority? Not even Zimmermann in his "Pleasures of Solitude," or Cowper, in the poem, "I am Monarch of all I Survey," can claim to have developed one point of attraction in Robinson Crusoe's lonely life so fully as has been done by the author of the following lines, part of an ode upon the "ends and angeries of umbrella owners in American cities." The writer must have lately lost a ten dollar silk.

"A Crusoe on his solitary isle
Was no doubt lonely, and it may be said
When he cracked jokes there were none to smile
And none to sympathize when he cut bad
But yet he had this glorious consolation,
His parachute was free from confiscation.

He could roam round his island at his will
And take his parachute or leave it at home.
He knew that here he left it it would still
Remain there, until he took it from the room
Thrice happy man O doubly blessed Crusoe
Who among us in cities dares to do so?"

The writer of the above was particularly aggravated that it was wet weather when he was bereaved of his umbrella. He says:

"Oh why not take it on some pleasant day
When in the zenith's wide shining heights
At such a time I would not like him [illegible]
Not missing it as I saw delighted knights
As we shake hands and said in analogous strain
"Silver or dollar you're welcome again."

THE RAIN —The recent rains will have passed over the country have been of great benefit to the commercial interests of the State. Since the advent of the rain the Willamette has risen several feet and is still rising at the present time. This enables the steamers which run on the upper Willamette to reach points heretofore inaccessible. Since the stage of water has admitted of navigation on the upper river boats have been bringing down large quantities of wheat. The present rain in the river can be regarded as quite fortunate as there are a large number of ocean vessels now in port under charter to carry away cargoes of grain. If the water was too low to allow boats to ascend the upper Willamette there would be unavailable delay in procuring cargoes.

BRIEF TESTIMONIAL —Gen Watson the popular steamboat man has received a complimentary testimonial from the officers of the steamer Ruth on the occasion of her first trip between Portland and Dalles. Pursuant to the building, for only occupied by clerks [illegible] Mr Watson's office. This evening, the Parlor will be formally opened to the public. Mr Watson would be happy to have the patronage of all his friends.

U S DISTRICT ATTORNEY —Hon Lafayette Mallory who received the appointment of United States Attorney for the District of Oregon a few weeks ago presented his credentials at the office and commissioned yesterday in the District Court. These were read before the Court and the order entered that the same be spread on the journal. Mr Mallory will enter upon the duties of his position at once.

LOST —All parties holding tickets in the ladies gold watch chain, at the Occidental Hotel, take notice that the same will be raffled for at Brendel's saloon next door to Multnomah Engine House on New Years eve.

SWORD PRESENTATION —Capt R H Thompson of the City Rides was presented with a very handsome sword on Monday evening at the hop bon parts given at the armory of the Company. Capt H Cooke of the Washington Guard made the presentation speech and was neatly responded to by the recipient. The sword is a superb one and was presented by Mark A King Esq.

NEXT LECTURE —Rev D K Nesbit of Corvallis will deliver the next lecture of the course at the Congregational church of this city on Friday evening Jan 2. His subject will be What Next. Mr Nesbit is a good elocutionist, a gentleman of extensive culture and scholarship and a popular speaker. The church on that occasion will doubtless be crowded.

IN THE RIVER —The bark *Bell Island Mariner* and *Ida Todd* are all in the river. The former vessel came in ballast from some South American port and will load with wheat for Europe. The two last mentioned vessels came from San Francisco with assorted cargoes. These vessels will be in readiness to sail by Thursday. The *Ida Todd* will probably arrive to-day.

WEATHER REPORT —From the records of the U S Signal Station of Observation Portland Oregon December 30, 18[illegible]

	7 A M	2 P M	9 P M
Thermometer	39	49	39
Wind direction	Calm	SE	S
Velocity miles per hour			30
Weather	Rain	Rain	Cloudy
Rainfall			0 .1 inches

IN JAIL —A chronic old Chinaman known as Lee Wan who has just been discharged from the city jail for larceny was arrested on Monday evening charged with stealing an old clock. Subsequently the stolen property was identified by the owner Mrs McCan, and Lee Wan will be examined in Police Court this morning on the charge.

NO INQUEST —We learn that no inquest will be held on the body of young Gardner who was drowned near Wheatland last Sunday afternoon. The drowning did not occur in this county and the holding of an inquest, and putting the county to so much expense was thought unnecessary. The body will be buried to-day.

COMING OVER SOON —We received last evening a private note from Vivian, which states that his Company has not disbanded although he has made many changes since his departure from this city. He will be in Portland in a few days. The letter was written from Victoria.

LIKELY TO RECOVER —The young man David Chalmers who has been so severely afflicted of late and who sustained an amputation of the left thigh, is said to be doing very well under the circumstances. His surgeon is now hopeful of his ability to save the right foot.

LINE DOWN —Last evening the O S N Co's line was down above the Dalles. At 6 o'clock P M yesterday the weather was as follows:

Dalles—Clear thermometer 30°
Cascades—Weather clear and pleasant ther mometer 40°

SPECIAL SESSION —Judge Upton will hold a special term of Circuit Court to-day. A number of motions, etc, taken under advisement at the close of the last term will be disposed of. The session will last only for one day.

HURT —Captain Tom Mountfort the well-known stevedore fell over a pile of freight a few days ago and sustained severe injuries in the side and back. He will be about in a few days again.

N P R R —This road having been completed from the Columbia river to Puget Sound regular trains will run between Kalama and Tacoma, on and after Jan 1, 1874.

DISCHARGING BALLAST —Several of the vessels now in port are discharging ballast at the wharves. In a few days they will be ready to receive grain with a rush.

New goods arrived on last steamer suitable for New Years Presents, at Wm Pfunder's Apothecary Hall, corner First and Oak streets.

BALLS AND PARTIES.

Columbian No 3 will give a pleasant little party at the engine house this evening.

Grand mas querade ball to-morrow evening at the Armory Hall, by the Jolly Good Fellows. There will be a jolly time for all who attend.

This evening the Sylvester ball given by the German School society, will come off at Masonic Hall. The Committee of Arrangements have been unsparing in their efforts to render the affair successful and there is little doubt but what the party will be one of the most enjoyable of the season.

The Scandinavian Society of Portland gave a social dance last evening at the Good Templar Hall. There was a large attendance, and all present appeared to enjoy the pleasures of the evening to the fullest extent. The hall was not jammed there being just a sufficient number present to fill it comfortably. The interior of the room was tastefully decorated with evergreens and flags. Above the musicians' stand were the national colors of Sweden, Norway and Denmark, hung in graceful folds and in the center of which was the coat of arms of the three nations. At the eastern or back end of the hall was hung the American colors immediately below which was the coat of arms of Sweden, Denmark and Norway. In front of the musicians' stand were three gas jets, displaying the letters "S N D" which represented the first letter of the names of each of those three powers. All these surroundings lent an unique and withal, an attractive aspect to the entire hall. This is the first ball given by the society in Portland and it can be set down as a success financially and socially. We congratulate our Scandinavian citizens on the measure of success which attended the occasion and hope that they may give a similar party at an early day.

NO DISTURBANCE.

We are in receipt of the following note from Bishop B W Morris, in reference to some allusions made by the press of the city to recent disturbances created by boys at Mission Chapel. He says:

In the cause of truth and the good name of a portion of our citizens, I beg leave to correct a statement made in the press of the city in reference to the disturbance of the services at the Episcopal Mission Chapel of Carroll street last Sunday evening. Some one has grossly misrepresented the matter and given the story that is not the least semblance of a foundation. I had charge of the services on the occasion referred to and assure you that I have rarely seen a more attentive or better behaved congregation any where. There was not a single occurrence that by any construction could be called disturbance since so far as my observation went. Whatever rudeness there may have been at other times, there was nothing of the sort last Sunday evening, and I have little apprehension of any for the future.

So far as this appeared in these columns we acted upon what we considered reliable information and published it as such. We are pleased to make the above correction so that no wrong impression may be made. Portland certainly has enough very bad boys. But we are unwilling to do their character any thing of which they are not guilty. Concerning that particular occurrence we believe will be held until

THE COURTS.

[illegible]

IN BANC.

WHEELER vs CHAPMAN et al —Chief Justice Boise delivered the opinion of the Court in this case. Judgment affirmed.

[illegible] vs [illegible] —Motion by Mr Watson for admission to the Bar. Granted.

[illegible] vs [illegible] —Motion by Mr Mallory for admission to the Bar.

Mr Mallory presented his oath of office and commission as U S District Attorney for Oregon which were read and order that commission be entered upon the Journal.

Adjourned to next day.

103 Front street is the place to see the elegant stock of watches, jewelry and fancy goods exhibited in this city.

HUMAN ANTIQUITY.

The first lecture by Prof Condon at Mercantile Hall was given last evening, to the largest audience he has yet had during the course. The subject of Human Antiquity was taken up and discussed in a able and very entertaining manner. After answering a question or two which were propounded last week the speaker proceeded to the main topic of the evening saying:

We might trace our way back to the antipodes of the human race by four separate lines of record. One may be spelled out in the ancient ruins that are found in various parts of the world and of these ruins either by the styles of architecture used the purposes for which the structures must have been erected or the inscriptions on them offered as evidence of a remote period in the past. In each of these we were right in following out and comparing these evidences and they were all entitled to their proper weight. Another line of record was the various changes and relations of human language and this field of study in which the philologist might find the richest scope for his investigations was one of the utmost importance and the greatest interest. It would not do to say that God created all the languages extant at the destruction of the Tower of Babel. We have better use for God's creative power than to say it was employed in bringing about the mere confusion of tongues which we now hear on the face of the earth. But if the changes of language as we trace them back indicate an ancient existence of the race they too should be followed out and allowed their proper weight with us in making up our judgments on these subjects.

Following up the record of the Hebrew race we find that Abraham the founder of the Hebrew nation in the language of their record was of Ur of the Chaldees. The city of Ur was the great emporium of trade of his country and it still exists though is not called Ur. Upon the cylinders of the Chaldees lay and describes the ceremonies yet to be seen as affording strong evidence of the existence of a higher enlightened race and Mr Rawlinson declares that the country furnishes clear proof of a very advanced stage of civilization. But when the empire of the Chaldees was in its most flourishing condition the city was immediately on the sea coast—now it is 150 miles from the shore the sea having been filled up for that distance by the sediment washed down and deposited by the river Euphrates. When Abraham went to the land of the Chaldees he found Melchizedek a priest the representative of some form of religion which Abraham recognized and to whom he paid tithes. Abraham also found in Egypt a Pharaoh who was a lover of truth and even surpassed the father of Israel in his regard for that virtue rebuking Abraham for his want of fidelity to his religion. The Hebrew record is purely a cosmical one and in no fault with its chronology but beyond and back of it there is a world record which we might also read and consider. About 500 B C Alexander went to Babylon accompanied by his cousin Callisthenes, a man of great learning who sent back word that the priests of Belus had opened to him the archives of that country and that among these were the records of astronomical observations running through a period of 1 [illegible] years. The records were kept on tiles which as the event happened were stamped and then put in its place so that upon column was formed of them which stood against the ravages of time for over two thousand years. These were not the speculations of astrology that were thus recorded, for founded upon the information received from Callisthenes Aristotle writes that he had observed an occultation of the planet Mars by the Moon and, said he, similar observations had been made on other planets by the Babylonian astronomers long before. It is but recently the case that astronomers of modern times have reached the same practical application of the laws of that science, these early understood by the ancients. Just so a few years ago, and the Europe a comet was regarded as an omen of war pestilence and devastation but Drollorts Scouts attributed them to their real and natural causes. Pitchers found in the ruins of Babylon a large plane convex lens and history tells us that astronomers of that day used instruments to enlarge the appearance of the heavenly bodies. Pythagoras also studied for years to find out how the human hearing might be aided by converging the waves of sound as the rays of light are converged by a lens.

The records in the Temple of Belus had been kept for 2 234 years before Christ reaching back to a period within 1 [illegible] years of the flood. But when these records were begun we were not yet near back to the earlier history of the Chaldees we are only in the third stage of their history of this Ur of the Chaldees.

The lecturer then called attention to the duration of time as marked by the deposits made by rivers at their mouths the river deposited 50 feet of soil per annum the town of Adria once on the shore is now 21 miles away the Mississippi fills up the Gulf of Mexico at the rate of 200 feet each year and the deposits made in the Persian Gulf would require 15 000 years at the rate at which they were now going on and it must have been at least 50 000 years since the city of Ur was a seaport. Herodotus says that all Egypt was once a swamp and perhaps an arm of the sea but that it was made land by the washings of the river Nile. The time in which these enormous deposits were made extending as they do for hundreds of miles, must have been very great in duration and reaches far back of the period of which the Bible speaks more than indefinitely.

The time was supposed now to have come when the world had given up the thought that the Bible was given to teach scientific truth. When God inspired men to write the Scriptures, He inspired them with such thoughts and words as the human comprehension could grasp and understand. To use the terms which the speaker used in addressing his audience in talking to little children would be absurd. So the Bible in addressing itself to the imperfect and limited understanding of humanity in the infancy of knowledge contains only those truths which the mind of man in that state would understand. Instead of contradicting the Christmas which was founded upon the Bible the knowledge of this science only served to form the blunders which those who attempted to explain the cause of nature ere this were wont to fall into.

Here the speaker briefly alluded to the bones of animals and human remains to be found in some caves of Europe. The animals were now extinct and belong to a prehistoric age. From the human remains found the most moderate Christian geologist fixed the period of the existence of the race back for 100 000 years. Three human skeletons had been found upon which were promptly based the reasoning upon the question of man's antiquity—one in the coral rocks of Florida another in a quarry of stone in the Island of Guadaloupe and the third in the vicinity of Natchez. This last must have been full grown when the Gulf of Mexico extended as far north as that point. Other skeletons had been found but these were the principal facts.

The lecturer closed his learned and harmonious with the truths of the [illegible] superiority ought to recommend the lecture to the intellect as well as to the heart of man and [illegible] would support and maintain Christianity in [illegible] the triumphs of the [illegible] upon record as well as [illegible] it would [illegible] the results which Christianity was [illegible] in one of the most [illegible] forms—and this battle [illegible] go on [illegible] to draw with and bring [illegible] chaos of idea to which men [illegible] to Him as Almighty.

The next lecture announced will be on the subject of Noah's Ark Explained from the [illegible] Tuesday evening.

[illegible] Watches [illegible] to all [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

The Daily Oregonian.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC 31 1873

MARVELOUSLY MIXED

A MAN AND HIS TWO LAWFUL WIVES.

From the San Francisco Post

Letters have been received by eminent citizens of San Bernardino from citizens of San Bernardino and others—craving a knowledge of the facts to settle perhaps the most perplexing question yet born of the new law codes. The question and the case in which it arose are both passing strange. The question as suggested in the caption above is—Can a man have two lawful wives in California under the new law? The case which elicited the decision of Judge Ogden has been just decided by the Supreme Court of California and will be found in so far as the aforesaid question is the affirmative sets at rest forever the vexed question when Mormonism flaunted in San Bernardino county. It is about to receive a throne there.

THE FACT OF THE CASE.

Nearly a dozen years ago Oades, of good education and address, located in the county named, about two years. He was then but twenty-one years old, before he found it was not well to continue so. He was a young, wealthy, and beauty of rural Ireland—with whom he became passionately enamored and which resulted in his procuring the utmost willingness on her part to wed him. In due time they were married and settled upon a choice piece of land which Oades had purchased in Temescal township in this county. This was in January, 1862. One of the fruits of the union is a child, born about a month old. The married life of the twain opened auspiciously and continued prosperously. Oades was contented with his bride and farm which he cultivated diligently. His wife was faithful and industrious, admired as much for her goodness as she was for her loveliness which, indeed, is of that type which needs not the aid of foreign ornament but is when unadorned adorned the most.

A PREVIOUS BUT NOT PREFERRED CLAIMANT

Ten months of wedded life passed smoothly on this peaceful farm

So calm the moments scarcely seemed to stray
And yet they flew like happiness away.

About two months ago a woman accompanied by three children—two boys and a girl the eldest nearly grown to man's estate—put in an appearance at the quiet town of San Bernardino. The mother's looks told of the winters through which she had passed, while her features showed that hers had been a hard fate and that she had been a life wanderer. She soon made known the cause of her presence—she was looking for a manamed Oades, who, she had heard was living there or near there. Being directed to his cosy farm house she quickly turned her steps thither with her children. The wanderers

REACHED AT LAST THEIR DESTINATION

The door was opened to them and close behind them. It is still closed upon the extraordinary scene which must speedily have followed. Let it remain closed, that persons may not gaze upon the unparalleled spectacle. The doors wide open however to later developments which will be briefly disclosed.

Temescal township is like every other California township in one respect—everybody knows everybody else's business. Shortly after the unknown woman with the three children found a home under the farmer's roof it was generally understood that Oades comported himself towards them as a husband and father. The indignant neighbors which phrase includes all the meddlesome busybodies as well as all the severely virtuous people of the vicinity sent up a long howl over the

OPEN PROFLIGACY

Which was being practiced before their very eyes. A criminal complaint was filed before a Justice of the Peace, one Billings charging Oades with open and notorious cohabitation and adultery under the Act of March 1, 1872. Oades would not have got off like the lawyer Mace of this city, because his cohabitation with the strange woman was open and notorious had he not introduced in his defense documentary evidence of a rather binding character which

A BOOK ALL SAN BERNARDINO BY SURPRISE

He proved that the woman was his lawful wife, having been married to him in England twenty years ago. From England they emigrated to New Zealand where their children were born. This evidence could not be rebutted and the charge of adultery was dismissed. Oades then

RETURNED TO HIS TWO WIVES

A few days later he was taken before the same Justice charged, this time with open and notorious adultery with Mrs. Nancy Foreland—Mrs. Oades No. 2. On this trial the consternation which Oades threw into the camp of his persecutors was something beautiful to behold. Assisted by the best of local counsel and armed behind the bulwarks of the new law codes, he foiled their wild rage with steady skill. He, or perhaps, more properly speaking, his lawyers took the ground that even if all the facts alleged by the prosecution were admitted a conviction could not be had in this case under the second subdivision of the 61st section of the Civil Code. It is then declared that "the marriage of a person having a former husband or wife living is void *unless* such former husband or wife was absent and not known to such person to be living, for five years immediately preceding such subsequent marriage—*which case the subsequent marriage is valid only from the time its nullity is adjudged by a proper tribunal.*"

The Justice, upon examination said this proposition was too clear to be disputed and the only thing for the Court to consider was when Oades married Nancy Foreland had Mrs. Oades No. 1 been absent and not known by Oades to be living for five years immediately preceding Oades then introduced

THIS ROMANTIC HISTORY

About eight years ago he was living with Mrs. Oades No. 1 and their three children in Wellington county, New Zealand. Their residence was on the frontiers. Having gone on business to Victoria, the Maoris, a native tribe with which the English were at peace made an inroad into the settlements without warning. Returning, Oades found his building burned, his fields laid waste and his family gone. In the smoking ruins he found human bones, which settled his doubts as to the fate of the loved ones. He stayed amid the scenes of his desolation for over a year then turned his back upon them forever. He came to California, living in various places until his advent at San Bernardino two years ago, as stated.

The Court on this held that Oades had been ignorant of the existence of his wife for more than five years when he married Nancy Foreland. The accused again returned home in triumph.

A TRIP AT FOR BIGAMY

Was the next thing in order. On the advice of District Attorney Cokeman the Grand Jury indicted Oades for bigamy. At the trial as may well be imagined everybody was present with his wife. Oades was present with his two wives. The District Attorney made an eloquent plea for conviction—quoting enough Latin to crush any man less strongly entrenched than Oades. Admitting that he accused was ignorant of Mrs. O's existence when he took a second rib his voluntary cohabitation with both women after learning the facts was to be taken as conclusive evidence of criminal intention *ab initio* (*ista extenuantia non tollit delictum ex ante*).

But all the District Attorney's eloquent Latin was thrown away. The defendant's counsel appealed to the Penal Code which provides that no person shall be held guilty of bigamy whose husband or wife [illegible] absent for seven years successively without being known to such person as being living. The learned Judge sustained the point and rendered this provision

A THIRD TIME MADE WALKED FORTH

From the Court room the husband with his two wives to mutual bliss and

SAN BERNARDINO ESQUIETH

The contentment and tranquility which prevailed in San Bernardino over this terrible scandal was indeed to be heard of. Thus described. The San Bernardino lawyers have all just contracted brain fever [illegible] to ascertain a legal way to remove the awful results. Believing in the law maxim, that for every wrong there is a remedy, and having despaired of ever finding a remedy for the awful wrong aforesaid, they have as stated appealed to shining lights of the San Francisco bar and also to one of the code makers for advice. In their distress, they have the sympathy of the people of every section of the Union out those of Utah. Funny, will it not be if they fail to beat Oades and his lawyer in the end? Our most serious regret in detailing the history of this matter is that we have not learned the name of Oades lawyer. His fame is sure to spread abroad with the waters be-

VICTORY NO. 4

P. S.—Since Oades was acquitted of bigamy it has been contemplated to institute a suit to dissolve his second marriage but the [illegible] Section 83 subdivision 2 declares that an action to annul such a marriage can be brought by one of the parties of the second marriage or by one of the parties during the first marriage.

Of the will of [illegible] present [illegible] either of his wives who [illegible] together of [illegible] will be [illegible] Whether [illegible]

FINANCE AND COMMERCE.

Financial

TUESDAY EVENING, Dec. 30—6 P. M.

Gold in New York closed at 110

Bonds are dull and nominal. Closing quotations were [illegible]

Bonds are [illegible] at par at the office of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company in San Francisco as per [illegible]

Exchange on Liverpool by mail advices from San Francisco—Average difficulties [illegible] Club [illegible]

The fashionable [illegible] who make strong, and [illegible] capitalists. [illegible] of credit and capacity to [illegible] the mass of the community find [illegible] exaggerated sort of the [illegible] communities of the Pacific Coast. [illegible] the [illegible] of the [illegible] to [illegible] comment upon [illegible] of [illegible] San Francisco [illegible] but [illegible] of the [illegible] in [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]